

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Inventor(s): TASAKI

Appln. No.: 09

741,016

Series Code ↑

Serial No. ↑

Filed: December 21, 2000

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Group Art Unit

2851

Examiner:

Peter B. Kim

Atty. Dkt.

P

0275665

T4AOA-00S0701-1

Appln. Title:

ID CARD-MAKING APPARATUS, ID
CARD-MAKING METHOD, AND ID
CARD

Sir:

REPLY/AMENDMENT/LETTER

Date: January 30, 2003

This is a reply/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes the herewith attachment of same date and subject which is incorporated herewith by reference and the signature below is treated as the signature to the attachment in absence of a signature thereto.

FEE REQUIREMENTS FOR CLAIMS AS AMENDED

1. Small Entity claim

A. ☒ NOT madeB. ☐ WithdrawnC. ☐ made herewithD. ☐ made previously

For B & C

See Required

Separate Paper

(Pat-256)

	Claims remaining after amendment	Highest number previously paid for	Present Extra	Large/Small Entity	Additional Fee	Fee Code Lg/Sm
2. Total Effective Claims	11	**minus 20	0	x \$18/\$9 =	+ \$0	103/203
3. Independent Claims	7	***minus 7	0	x \$84/\$42 =	+ \$0	102/202
4. If amendment enters proper multiple dependent claim(s) into this application for first time (leave blank if this is a reissue application)..... add				+ \$280/\$140 =	+ \$0	104/204
5. Original due Date: January 30, 2003	<input type="checkbox"/> NONE					
6. Petition is hereby made to extend the original due date to cover the date this response is filed for which the requisite fee is attached	(1 mo)	\$110/\$55 =		+ \$0		115/215
	(2 mos)	\$400/\$200 =				116/216
	(3 mos)	\$920/\$460 =				117/217
	(4 mos)	\$1,440/\$720 =				118/218
	(5 mos)	\$1,960/\$980 =				128/228
7. Enter any previous extension fee paid since above original due date and subtract			- \$0			
8.				Extension Fee	+ \$0	
9. If Terminal Disclaimer attached, add Rule 20(d) official fee			+ \$110/\$55		+ \$0	148/248
10. If IDS attached requires Official Fee under Rule 97 (c),			+ \$180		+ \$0	126
or if Rule 97(d) Request			+ \$180			126
11. After-Final Request Fee per rules 129(a) and 17(r)			+ \$740/370		+ \$0	146/246
12. No. of additional inventions for examination per Rule 129(b).....			x \$740/370 ea		+ \$0	149/249
13. Request for Continued Examination (RCE)			+ \$740/370		+ \$0	1179/1279
14. Petition fee for					+ \$0	
15.					TOTAL FEE =	\$0

16. *If the entry in this space is less than entry in next space, the "Present Extra" result is "0".

17. **If the "Highest number previously paid for" in this space is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

18. ***If the "Highest number previously paid for" in this space is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

Our Deposit Account No. 03-3975)

(Our Order No. 008312 0275665

C#

M#

CHARGE STATEMENT: The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any missing or insufficient fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (missing or insufficiencies only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting Official Document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Accounting/Order Nos. shown above, for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

This CHARGE STATEMENT does not authorize charge of the issue fee until/unless an issue fee transmittal sheet is filed.

Query: Is appeal deadline now? If so, file Notice of Appeals separately.

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP
Intellectual Property Group

By Atty: Glenn J. Perry

Sig:

P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
Tel: (703) 905-2000

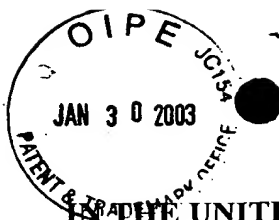
Reg. No. 28458

Fax: (703) 905-2500

Tel: (703) 905-2161

Atty/Sec: GJP/VPH:ksh

NOTE: File this cover sheet in duplicate with PTO receipt (PAT-103A) and attachments



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

Confirmation No. 6670

TASAKI, Michihide

Group Art Unit: 2851

Appln. No.: 09/741,016

Examiner: KIM, Peter B.

Filed: December 21, 2000

Title: ID CARD USING EXTRACTED IMAGE (AS AMENDED)

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January 30, 2003

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated October 30, 2002, reconsideration and allowance of this Application are respectfully requested. Claims 2-6, 8-10 and 12-14 are pending in the application.

The Office Action rejected claims 2, 3, 8 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,410,642, issued to Hakamatsuka et al. ("Hakamatsuka") in view of U.S. Patent 6,421,110, issued to Yakawa. The Office Action rejected claims 4-6, 9, 10, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,410,642, issued to Hakamatsuka et al. ("Hakamatsuka") in view of U.S. Patent 6,421,110, issued to Yakawa and U.S. Patent 6,356,339, issued to Enomoto. Applicant traverses the rejection because neither Hakamatsuka, Yakawa nor Enomoto, analyzed alone or in any combination, teach or suggest all the combined features recited in the present application.

Hakamatsuka teaches extracting a figure image, a technique for preventing forgery based on changing background data and a technique for making an ID card. However, the

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Office Action concedes that Hakamatsuka fails to teach or suggest detecting and extracting the image and extracting a figure image and producing composite image with a different background.

To compensate for the deficiencies of Hakamatsuka, the Office Action relies upon the teachings of Yakawa and Enomoto. Based upon the teachings of Yakawa and Enomoto, the Office Action asserts that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide an apparatus and method having all the features recited in the claims of the present application. Applicant disagrees.

Yakawa merely discloses a digital exposure type photo processing apparatus in which a film scanner 3 reads an image frame (effective image data) and a surrounding area (surrounding area data) from photographic film 1. In Yakawa, effective image extracting section 62, using a predetermined algorithm, checks the RGB density values of each pixel and the density distribution of each pixel so that surrounding image data may be ascertained and the effective image data extracted (See, col. 5, lines 56-61). However, Applicant respectfully notes that Yakawa does not teach or suggest detection of the photograph edge, as recited in the claims of the present invention. In particular, Yakawa fails to teach or suggest detecting a photograph edge by comparing vertical and horizontal components of the photograph portion detected by the photograph position detection means with those of predetermined photograph size, as recited in independent claims 2-4, 8-9 and 12-13.

Enomoto merely discloses an image synthesis technique for producing a print having an arbitrary background or characters. And, like Yakawa, it also fails to teach all the recited combination of features of the present invention.

In an embodiment of the present invention, an image of a predetermined area of an ID card application form is read, and a photograph edge is detected based on the read image data. Specifically, an ID card application form is read, and the image data obtained is

processed with a spatial filter to extract vertical and horizontal components thereof. Vertical and horizontal components are also obtained from the line, character or photograph portions of the ID card application form. (Applicant notes that the size of the photograph attached to the ID card application form is predetermined. Thus, a combination of vertical and horizontal components corresponding to a preset photograph size may be determined beforehand.) The extracted vertical and horizontal components are compared with the horizontal and vertical components of the predetermined photograph size to detect the photograph edge.

Since Yakawa and Enomoto fail to teach or suggest detecting a photograph edge as discussed above and recited in the claims of the present application, no combination of Hakamatsuka, Yakawa or Enomoto, as suggested by the Office Action, would provide an ID card-making apparatus, method or ID card having the combined feature recited in the claims of the present application. Accordingly, claims 2-4, 8-9 and 12-13 and dependent claims 5, 6, 10 and 14 are patentable over Hakamatsuka, Yakawa and Enomoto. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are requested.

The Office Action further rejected claims 4-6, 9, 10, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hakamatsuka in view of Yakawa and U.S. Patent 5,914,748, issued to Parulski, et al. ("Parulski"). Applicants traverse the rejection because neither Hakamatsuka, Yakawa nor Parulski, analyzed alone or in combination, teach or suggest our claimed combination of features, such as detecting a photograph edge or extracting a photographic image without its edge.

Parulski discloses an electronic imaging system useful for composing images in which first and second images are subtracted to generate a difference image, and the difference image is processed to generate a mask image. More particularly, in Parulski, a figure image is extracted from the rest of an image field. However, Parulski does not teach or suggest detecting a photograph edge by comparing vertical and horizontal components

included in image data obtained by the image reading means with those of predetermined photograph size, as recited in independent claims 4, 9 and 13 of the present application.

As discussed above, Yakawa and Hakamatsuka also fail to teach or suggest all the combined features recited in the present application. Thus, claims 4, 9 and 13 and their dependent claims 5-6, 10 and 14 are patentable over the applied combination of Hakamatsuka, Yakawa and Parulski. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested.

All matters having been attended to, Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By: 

Glenn J. Perry

Reg. No.: 28,458

Tel. No.: (703) 905-2161

Fax No.: (703) 905-2500

GJP/VPH:ksh

1600 Tysons Boulevard
McLean, Virginia 22102
(703) 905-2000